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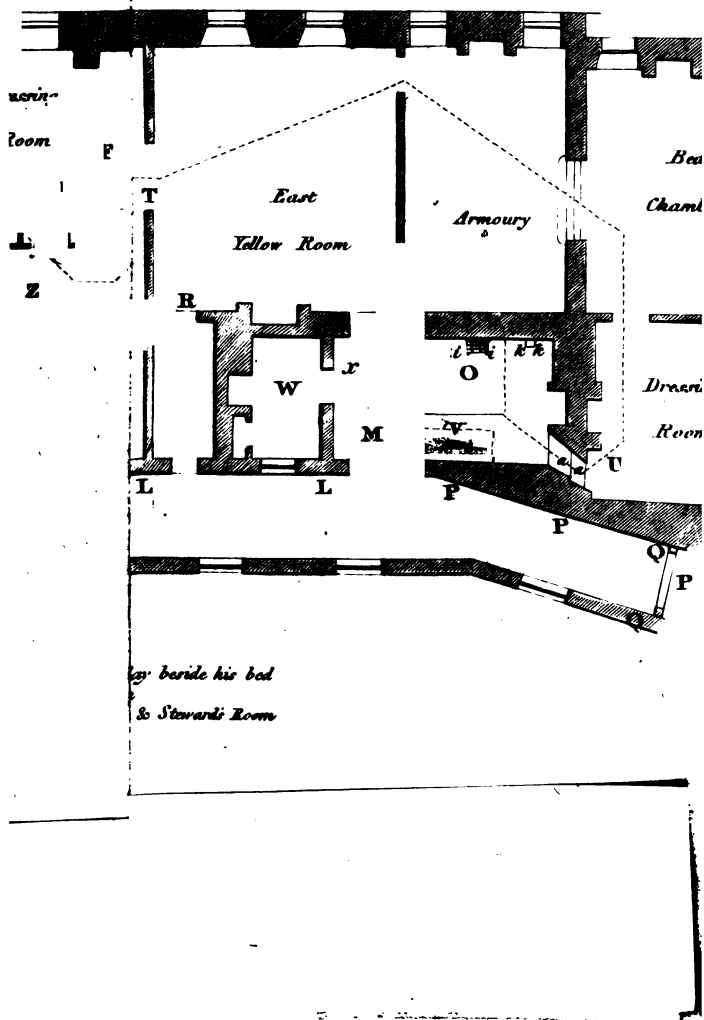
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CE.



A
MINUTE DETAIL

OF THE ATTEMPT TO

Assassinate

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE

Duke of Cumberland:

AND OF

THE FACTS, CIRCUMSTANCES, AND TESTIMONIES,

OF

NUMEROUS PERSONS,

RELATING TO THAT EVENT;

IN A LETTER TO W. I. ESQ.

PRECEDED BY

THE DEPOSITIONS,

BEFORE THE

CHIEF MAGISTRATE OF THE POLICE

AND THE

CORONER;

WITH A

Plan of the Duke's Apartments in St. James's Palace.

FOURTH EDITION.

LONDON:

PRINTED FOR J. J. STOCKDALE,

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1810.

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THE
ADVERTISEMENT.

THE publisher feels it incumbent upon him to state that, the documents contained in this work, viz. a plan of the apartments, the depositions, and the account of the coroner's inquest, are all official papers with which he has been furnished by the proper authorities.

For the letter, which contains the interesting narrative of this horrid transaction, the publisher is highly indebted to a gentleman, through whose kindness he has been favoured with a copy. He is also most grateful to the same gentleman for a

plan of the Duke's apartments, laid down according to the scale annexed, together with indications of the respective chambers, to which reference is made throughout the letter. Having obtained permission, the publisher now begs leave to communicate this interesting letter to the public: wherein, nothing has been altered, nothing added or omitted, in matter or expression. It goes forth as originally drawn up by the writer, whose opinions and observations were founded upon ocular demonstration or personal investigation into every fact which he has detailed. The perspicuity and ability with which he availed himself of the facilities afforded to the public, during several days, will be best appreciated by the perusal of his letter, to which, therefore, without further observation, the publisher presumes to refer.

A

MINUTE DETAIL,

&c. &c.

MIDDLESEX. — *The Information of his Royal Highness ERNEST AUGUSTUS, Duke of CUMBERLAND,*

Who, being upon his oath, saith, that, before three o'clock this morning, being in bed and asleep, he received two blows upon his head, which awoke him, and, upon starting up, he received two other blows upon his head, which, being accompanied with a hissing noise, it occurred to him that some bat had flown against him, being between sleeping and waking, and immediately received two other blows; there was a lamp burning in the room, but he did not see any body; that there was a night table standing near the bed side, where a letter lay which was covered

with blood. His Royal Highness says, he then got up and made for the door, which opens at the head of the bed; he then received a wound upon his right thigh with a sabre; he then called out to Neale, his page, and said there was a murderer in his room; and, upon returning to his bed-room with Neale, he perceived that the door, leading to the yellow room, was wide open, which is always locked the last thing when he gets into bed; a naked sword had been dropped, which he supposes must have given the wound in his thigh. The man who gave the blows never spoke a word, and, upon Neale returning with his Royal Highness, the man had fled through to the yellow room which leads into the ball-room, through the other yellow room into the armoury, to the summer bed-room through the dressing-room into Sellis's room (the page whom his Royal Highness believes gave him the wounds). His Royal Highness then went down stairs with Neale, and ordered the doors to be secured, that no person might escape out of the apartments. His Royal Highness further states that, upon his return into his bed-room, he discovered that the sword which lay upon the floor was his own regimental sword, and, in the closet at the foot of his bed, was found the scabbard, with a pair of slippers belonging to Sellis, and the key of the closet-door, which is usually on the side of the door.

next the room, was found on the inside of the door next the closet; there was also a dark lantern in the closet, and, from these circumstances, he has reason to believe, and doth believe, that the blows and wounds he received were given him by the said Joseph Sellis. His Royal Highness further saith, that the said Joseph Sellis had not incurred his displeasure, and that he had not any reason to think ill of him,

The mark of



His Royal Highness the Duke of
CUMBERLAND.

Sworn before me, the
31st May, 1810.

J. READ.

MIDDLESEX.—*The Information of* CORNELIUS
NEALE, *Valet to his Royal Highness the Duke*
of CUMBERLAND,

Who, being upon his oath, saith, that, whilst he was in bed, in a room adjoining the bed-room

of his Royal Highness, a little before three o'clock, he heard his Royal Highness call out "Neale! Neale! I am murdered!" upon which he got out of bed and met the Duke of Cumberland at the door. His Royal Highness said the murderer was in his bed-room. Informant says, he instantly darted into the bed-room of His Royal Highness and seized the poker, and then perceived that the door leading into the yellow room was wide open, which he immediately ran to, and set his foot upon a naked sword which was laying on the floor, just by the door. He took up the sword, and asked leave of his Royal Highness to pursue the assassin; but his Royal Highness desired he would not, but to call the servants. His Royal Highness then leant upon informant's arm, and they went together into the porter's room, and called the porter, and he was ordered, by his Royal Highness, not to suffer any person to go out of the house. They then returned up stairs again, and, upon going up stairs, they met Mrs. Neale, whom his Royal Highness desired to call Sellis. She ran to his bed-room, and came back again, and said the door was locked. His Royal Highness then, finding himself faint from loss of blood, lay down upon the bed. His Royal Highness then desired informant to look after the assassin, and to find out where he could have been concealed. Informant

opened the door at the foot of the bed leading to a small room which has three closets; the water closet, the closet where informant supposed the assassin had concealed himself, and another closet for dirty linen. In the closet where he supposed the assassin was concealed, informant found a pair of black leather slippers, with the name of Sellis written in each slipper, which informant believes to be of the hand writing of Joseph Sellis, an Italian, one of the valets of his Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland; there was also a dark lantern, a bottle of water, and the scabbard of the sword which was found upon the floor in the bed-room; there was also two bolsters, which are used in the day time for ornamenting the bed of his Royal Highness, and the key of the closet was in the inside of the door, which was not usual, and could have been of no use but for the purpose of locking the door, where he supposes the assassin had concealed himself. Informant saith, about this time a report came to the Duke that Sellis was murdered. Informant saith, that he assisted his Royal Highness to go to bed. About this time Mr. Home, the surgeon, came, and this informant assisted him in binding up his wounds. Informant saith, there are several wounds upon his Royal Highness's head, one upon his throat. That the back of his right hand is cut across,

and that there are wounds upon his left arm, and a wound upon the back of his right thigh, and he has reason to believe that all the wound were given by the sword found upon the floor in the bed-room, which was very bloody. Informant saith that, between the Duke's room and informant's room, there are three doors, but only a wainscot partition between the beds. That he never heard any noise till the Duke called out Neale! Neale! I am murdered! Informant saith that he attended his Royal Highness to bed last night about twelve o'clock; and, after his Royal Highness had passed the yellow room (which he always does when he goes to bed), informant shut the door, and is very sure he locked it, and he afterwards remained in the Duke's room until his Royal Highness got into bed. No other person was in the room, and his Royal Highness desired informant would call him at seven o'clock. Informant went out, by the doors leading to his own room, and ordered the housemaid to light his Royal Highness's fire at six o'clock; he then went to his own room, and went to bed. The doors between his Royal Highness's bed-room and the bed-room of this informant were shut but not locked. His bed-room door next the passage is always open; that he is very wakeful and if any one had come in that way, he must either have heard or seen him; and there being

no other entrance to his Royal Highness's bed-room but the door from the yellow room, which he left locked, this informant verily believes that the said Joseph Sellis, or some other person who made the assault upon his Royal Highness, must have concealed himself in the closet where he found the slippers, the dark lantern, and the scabbard of the sword. Informant saith, that the said Joseph Sellis had taken out his Royal Highness's uniform and the sword, and brought them into his bed-room for a regiment inspection which did not take place, and Sellis afterwards returned the regimentals to the wardrobe, but left the sword in the bed-room, where informant believes he saw the sword some time yesterday.

CORNELIUS NEALE.

Sworn before me,

May 31, 1810.

J. READ.

MIDDLESEX. — *The Information of ANN, the Wife of CORNELIUS NEALE, Housekeeper to his Royal Highness the Duke of CUMBERLAND,*

Who, being upon oath, saith, that she was called

up this morning, about three o'clock, by her husband, and at the same time heard his Royal Highness exclaim that he had been murdered. Upon going into Mr. Neale's room (called the Page's Room) she found his Royal Highness bleeding very much. Mr. Neale was with him. His Royal Highness desired her to call the servants, and, after his Royal Highness had got back to his bed-room, she went and called Joseph Sellis at his room door, but no one answered; the door was fast. The porter was with her, and tried to open it, but could not. He then knocked very violently at the door, but no one answered. She then tried to open the door of the yellow room, leading to the ball-room, but could not open it, and found afterwards that the door was bolted withinside, which she never knew it to be before. Informant saith, that she then returned by the ball-room through the yellow rooms, and through the summer rooms, to get at Sellis's room the other way, and thinks five or six minutes had elapsed since they tried at the first door; and, just as she got to the bed-room door, she heard a guggling sort of noise like water in a man's throat, and heard a dropping on the floor like water, and the porter looked into the room and exclaimed good God! Mr. Sellis has cut his throat; upon which she

became very much frightened, and went away and desired the porter to get assistance. Informant says that the folding doors, leading from the ball-room into the yellow room, were shut, and all the other doors, from the ball-room to Sellis's room, were open.

ANN NEALE.

Informant farther saith, that she has known Joseph Sellis for near twelve years, and for the last five years he has lived in his Royal Highness's service: says that he was very obstinate and quarrelsome, and would not bear contradiction, not even from his Royal Highness, and would never acknowledge himself in fault. Had observed nothing particular in his deportment lately. He had been ill for three weeks or a month of a violent cold, but was getting better of it. Informant says that his Royal Highness had been very kind to him, and about a week or ten days ago had permitted him to go within the carriage, instead of riding on the outside, which he had been accustomed to do. She has no reason to believe that he had any grudge to his Royal Highness:—that, during his illness, his Royal Highness permitted him to go to bed,

instead of sitting up for him, which it was his place to do every third night. That, during the last four or five years, his Royal Highness had allowed his wife and family to live in the house, with an allowance of coals and candles. That (after the birth of the last child) about three months ago, his Royal Highness and the Princess Augusta stood for the christening by proxies, and, she has heard Sellis say, that the Queen had made him a present of two pieces of Indian muslin, and that the Princess Augusta had also given him a piece, with several other presents for the child's baptism. Informant saith that the Duke of Cumberland was very partial to Sellis, and always had him to travel with him.— Says that he lived very much to himself, and was very distant with all his Royal Highness's other servants. His principal acquaintances were a Mr. Greville, Page to the Duke of Cambridge; and a Mr. and Mrs. Dupre, Wax-chandler, in Jermyn-street. Mrs. Dupre was Mrs. Sellis's confidential friend. Informant says that there are a pair of green doors across the gallery which separates his Royal Highness's apartments from the Queen's public rooms, which are always kept locked, of which she has the key; but there was another key, which Sellis had, and which he informed her his Royal Highness had permitted

him to get made in order that he might pass from his Royal Highness's apartments to where his wife lived without going out of doors, and that he must have passed that way yesterday. Informant farther says, that, in passing through the ball-room and the yellow room adjoining, she found the upper part of the window-shutters open in the ball-room, the yellow room adjoining, and one in the spare bed-room, which were usually shut at night.

ANN NEALE.

Sworn before me,
May 31, 1810.

J. READ.

MIDDLESEX.—*The Information of BENJAMIN SMITH, Porter to his Royal Highness the Duke of CUMBERLAND,*

Who, being upon his oath, saith, that this morning, at about a quarter before three o'clock,

he was called up by his Royal Highness and Mr. Neale, the Valet. Neale cried out his Royal Highness is murdered. That he immediately got up, and saw his Royal Highness all over blood. They desired him to alarm the servants; and, having armed himself with a sword, he then went and gave directions to the centries to stop every one who should come out of the door. The outer door was fastened, and the area door was locked. He returned and met Mrs. Neale, the house-keeper, and the yager, and they went to the door of Sellis's room. Informant says he called through the key-hole of the door, and knocked at the same time with the sword he had in his hand, but no one answered, and they thought that Sellis could not be there; informant says he was then sent to Sellis's wife's apartments, and one of his children answered that he was sleeping in the house, meaning the Duke's private apartments. He then went round, with Mrs. Neale and the yager, through the drawing-room and the summer-apartments, and thinks ten minutes might have passed from the time he knocked at the first door (but, being frightened, he cannot speak to the exact time); that, just as they got near the door of Sellis's bed-room, he heard a guggling noise, that appeared to him to come from the throat of some person; he thinks Sellis's room

door was open, but neither he nor Mrs. Neale nor the yager went in, but, being very much frightened, and suspecting, from the noise they heard, that some other person had been murdered, they went back again to get farther assistance. Informant farther says that, in passing through the ball-room and the summer-apartments, he perceived the upper part of some of the window-shutters a little upon the jar. Informant says that Joseph Sellis came into his apartment, last night, before the Duke came from Greenwich, and asked who was for Windsor; and was answered the yager. Informant then asked Sellis if the Duke was going to Windsor to-morrow. Sellis answered, that he believed the Duke intended to go; that Sellis then went, as informant believes, up to the Duke's apartments, and he does not recollect that he saw him afterwards.

BENJAMIN SMITH.

Sworn before me,

May 31, 1810,

J. READ.

MIDDLESEX. — *The Information of* MATTHEW HENRY GRASLIN, *Servant to his Royal Highness the Duke of CUMBERLAND,*

Who, being upon his oath, saith, that he was called up this morning, about three o'clock, by Mrs. Neale, who said, get up! get up! the Duke is murdered! Informant says he got up, and took a pair of pistols with him, and, when he came to the sitting-room next his Royal Highness's bed-room, Mrs. Neale desired him to call Joseph Sellis, but he was not able to find the way to the apartments where Sellis and his wife lived, and came back again, and then the porter went and brought back word that Sellis was sleeping in the Duke's house. He then went, in company of Mrs. Neale and the porter, to Sellis's room door, where they called and knocked, but no one answered. They then went round by the ball-room and summer-apartments, and searched, as they went on, till they came to the other door of Sellis's room, where they heard a noise like water in some man's throat, and the porter cried out Sellis is murdered! The door of the room was open, but neither of them went into the room, they went back for farther assistance. Informant says, that he saw Sellis last night about eight o'clock, in the porter's room; he came then and asked who was for Windsor to-morrow. Informant says, he answered that he was. Informant

farther says, that, in passing through the ball-room and the summer-apartments, two window-shutters of the ball-room were a little open, and one window shutter, in each of the other rooms was a little open at the top.

MATTHEW HENRY GRASLIN.

Sworn before me, the

31st of May, 1810,

J. READ.

MIDDLESEX.—*The Information of* JOSEPH CREIGHTON, *Serjeant in the Coldstream Guards,*

Who, being upon his oath, saith, that he was one of the Serjeants of the King's Guard on duty at St. James's, and was called from the Guard-room, at half-past three o'clock, to his Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland's apartments. When he entered the hall, he found two servants, and was told that his Royal Highness had been wounded; and says, that he saw a good deal of blood in the hall and upon the stair-case. That he went with two or three soldiers, with arms, up stairs, and went through the suite of apartments into the room where the dead man lay; the door was on the jar; the servant who preceded us turned back, and one of the soldiers took the candle

out of his hand and went into the room, and informant followed him. They found a man, whom he has since understood to be Sellis, lying on his back on the bed, with his throat cut; his shirt was very bloody; a razor with a white handle lay on the floor, about two feet from the bed. Sellis had on a pair of pantaloons and stockings, but neither shoes nor coat, and, if he had on a waistcoat, it did not appear in front. There was a wash-hand-basin standing on the table with a little water in it, appearing as if some one had been washing their bloody hands in it. Informant says he picked up the razor and put it upon the table; the razor was bloody. Sellis was quite dead when he came into the room, but not cold. There was no appearance of Sellis having struggled; his hands were straight down, and the blood, all in a froth, running from his neck.

J. CREIGHTON,

Serjeant Coldstream Guards.

Sworn before me,

May 31, 1810,

J. READ.

MIDDLESEX.—*The Information of THOMAS STRICKLAND Under Butler to his Royal Highness the Duke of CUMBERLAND,*

Who, being upon oath, saith, that he saw Joseph Sellis last night, about ten minutes before eleven o'clock, in his Royal Highness's bed-room. He was standing by the dressing-table, with what appeared to this informant to be a shirt in his hand. Nothing passed between us. Informant says he went there, as it was usual for him to do, to take up his Royal Highness's cup, which he placed upon the stand by the bed-side. Informant says he was not surprised at seeing Sellis there, as he did not know but that it was his turn to be in waiting. Sellis looked earnestly at him, and had a smile upon his countenance, but did not speak. Sellis had his coat on, but he did not observe any other part of his dress, nor did he take notice whether there was or not a sword in the room. Says he had very little intercourse with Sellis, but, when he had, he always found him to be a very civil man. He left Sellis in the Duke's room, and never saw him afterwards.

THOMAS STRICKLAND,

Sworn before me, the

31st May, 1810.

J. READ.

MIDDLESEX. — *The Information of SARAH VARLEY, Housemaid to his Royal Highness the Duke of CUMBERLAND,*

Who, being upon her oath, saith, that it is her business to shut up the window-shutters of the ball-room, and the rooms upon the same floor, and that, last night, she shut all the window-shutters, but without putting up the bars, and that she shut all the doors, except the door leading into Sellis's room from his Royal Highness's dressing-room: that she took the two bolsters and coverlid, which dress the bed in the day-time, off from the bed, between nine and ten o'clock last night, and placed them in a closet leading to the water-closet, and that she locked the door, leaving the key in the door on the side next the room; she does it every night, and is perfectly sure she did it last night; informant says that, at the time she placed the bolsters in the closet, there was no sword there, nor any slippers or dark lantern; that she has just come from the closet where she placed the bolsters, and says, they are now in a very different position from that she left them in last night: informant farther says, that she was in the housemaid's room last night, about ten o'clock; Sarah Tetherhead and

Margaret Jones were there ; Sellis came in, and desired Margaret to put the sheets upon his bed, saying, I shall sleep here to-night, because, I think, the Duke is going to Windsor to-morrow ; Margaret answered, very well, Sir, and then Sellis went away.

SARAH VARLEY.

Sworn before me, the

31st of May, 1810.

J. READ.

The farther Information of SARAH VARLEY,

Who, being upon her oath, saith, that she has seen and examined the lantern, which was found in the closet where she placed the bolsters, and says, it is a small brown lantern, and hath glass sides, and has tin sliders to each glass to make it quite dark ; that she has seen a lantern like it once or twice, standing upon the drawers in Mr. Sellis's dressing-room, and she hath seen him with a lantern very like it in his hand, in the gallery, once or twice ; thinks it was above a month ago since she saw the lantern stand upon the

dressing-table and is very sure that it was a square lantern.

SARAH VARLEY.

Sworn before me, the
1st of June, 1810.

J. READ.

MIDDLESEX. — *The Information of* ANTONIO
PANZERA,

Who, upon his oath, says, that he has lived with his Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex, as his valet de chambre, about three years; that he knew Sellis by sight before he (this informant) came to live with his Royal Highness, and has seen him frequently since at Windsor and in town, but that he never called upon Sellis unless he had a message to deliver from his Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex, nor did Sellis ever call upon this informant in town. He was in no habits of intimacy with Sellis. When his Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex and his Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland were at Windsor, he frequently met him, and says, that

Sellis has several times told him that, if he could get another place, he should be very glad to leave the service of his Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland; giving as a reason, that he had a wife and a large family, and that he could not support them without better wages; that Neale, the other valet, had all the perquisites of the clothes, and that he (Sellis) lived upon ill terms with Neale. Informant saith, that, on the 22d of this month, he walked with Sellis for half an hour in Windsor Park, when he told this informant that he passed many unhappy hours, and that his situation was very uncomfortable, on account of a person in the house, of the name of Neale, whom he could swear robbed and plundered his Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland at different times. He said that his Royal Highness had used him ill, by very often speaking sharp to him, and that he thought, if Neale was not there, he should be treated better, and that Neale also used him very ill: and farther says, that Sellis, during this conversation, appeared very much dejected, and more low in spirits than he had ever seen him before. Says he has never met Sellis at any other place, except, once or twice, at the Opera, and does not know whom he associated with; that he was a man of very few words, and never said so much to him as he did on the day he has mentioned; but that, whenever he has met Sellis, he

has always expressed a wish to leave his Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland. Says that Sellis always appeared to him to be a very mild man, and not addicted to drink.

ANTONIO PANZERA.

Sworn before me, the
31st of May, 1810.

J. READ.

MIDDLESEX — *The Information of* FERDINAND
BURZIO, *of Charles Street, Grosvenor Square,*
Jeweller,

Who, being upon his oath, saith, that he has known Joseph Sellis about 14 or 15 years, has been in the habit of frequently seeing him, but not for the last five weeks. Before that time he used to call very often at the apartments of his Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland, with articles of jewellery; but never met Sellis at any third place. Says that Sellis was a man who lived much to himself; that he always considered him a very orderly good man. Informant saith that about five months ago, Sellis came to his house,

and asked informant to look out for a place for him. Informant said, Good God, what, do you mean to ruin yourself ! You must not think for yourself, you must think for your family ; upon that, informant says, Sellis left him, and went away apparently satisfied.

FERDINAND BERZIO.

Sworn before me, the

31st of May, 1810,

J. READ.

MIDDLESEX. — *The Information of MARY ANN SELLIS, Widow,*

Who, upon her oath, saith that, Joseph Sellis, her late husband, had been with her nearly the whole of yesterday ; that he went to market, and afterwards walked, with her and the children, into the Park, and did not leave her till ten o'clock last night, when he went away, saying, he should sleep at the Duke's, in order that the maid might sleep with her to nurse the young child ; when he went away the door was locked after him, and she never saw him afterwards. That, when he

walked with her in the Park, he had on pantaloons, with shoes and half-gaiters, and she verily believes he had on his shoes and gaiters when he left her at night, as she never saw him pull them off, and they are not left behind him, and that he scarcely ever wore slippers at home: informant says, that her late husband had been ill of a violent cold for four or five weeks, but he seemed to her to be more cheerful and happy yesterday, on account of their young child being better. Informant says that, about a fortnight ago, she heard him, in conversation with her sister, complain of his health; she overheard him say, in answer to some observation that fell from her sister, that death is a debt we must all pay, sooner or later. Informant says that he, last night, at supper, talked much of preparations, which were to be made, for dressing the children for the birth-day, and desired her to take care and get her gown in time, she having been busied in making up some muslin, that had been given to her husband, by the Queen and Princess Augusta, for her and the children: informant farther says that, to prevent her husband sleeping down stairs, she had put the child in the bed where the maid used to sleep, and told him she should not want the assistance of the maid in the room, but he told her that the Duke had said perhaps he might go to Windsor tomorrow morning, and therefore he should sleep

below stairs, as upon these occasions he was accustomed to do. That he took no lantern with him, nor his gloves or hat; nor had he any lantern belonging to him but one, which is now in the house, and is the one which she now produces. That she never heard him make any complaint of His Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland, but felt himself much gratified by the honour which his Royal Highness and the Princess Augusta had done him, by standing for their last child, and for the presents they had made them; and farther says, that her Royal Highness the Princess Elizabeth had also sent her presents two years running. Informant says, that she knows of nothing hanging upon his mind; that he was not particularly straightened in his circumstances at that time, and she does not know that he was in debt, or that he owes any bill, but to the apothecary: that the tailor brought home some clothes for him this morning; that he never drank spirits, or any thing but beer to his meals; that he made her a little brandy and water last night, for a spasm she had in her stomach, but did not touch it himself, although she asked him to do so. That he was always at home, and devoted the whole of his time to her, not having spent one evening out since she lay in, now about eight months ago; that Mr. Wallden, the butlerman, and Mr. Greville, his Royal Highness the

Duke of Cambridge's valet, were the persons he saw the most of, and they very seldom called upon him ; that he did not belong to any club or meeting, and never went out of doors for a week together, when any thing was a matter either with her or the children ; that he had a key to the green-baize doors which communicate with his Royal Highness's apartments, which he always kept himself, and wore it in his waistcoat pocket, and she heard him unlock the outer door, last night, when he left her, the same key opening that door as well as the green-baize doors. That he took his clean linen down stairs with him, and promised to bring back his dirty linen this morning, and desired her to roast the veal to-morrow, (meaning to-day,) and that he would remind her of it when he came in the morning. That, during his last illness, he has frequently complained of a giddiness in his head, and, when she has proposed to him, upon these occasions, to walk out in the air, he has always said that lying down would relieve him ; she has asked frequently to consult an apothecary about his health, and his answer always was, that nourishing things were better than medicines.

MARY ANN SELLIS.

Sworn before me, the

31st of May, 1810,

J. READ.

*The farther Information of the said MARY ANN
SELLIS,*

Who, being upon her oath, saith, that her husband never was accustomed to take any lantern or candle with him when he went from home into the Duke's apartments; that there is a lamp, always burning, on the stair-case leading to the gallery-door; that there is no lamp at present between the first door and the green doors; she has heard that there used to be one, but the lamp-lighter had taken it away, and that, between the green door and Duke's bed-room, lights are always burning until the Duke goes to bed; informant saith that, about two years ago, she heard that her husband had some disagreement with his Royal Highness, owing to a quarrel that had taken place between her husband and Neale, and he then told her that he had wrote to his Royal Highness expressing a wish to leave his service, but that he got no answer to it. He said that Major Thornton and Capt. Stephenson had told him to make himself happy and not to mind any thing about Neale's quarrel. Informant farther saith, that she never had the least reason to believe that her husband was deranged. Informant farther saith, that she remonstrated with him upon his

wishes to go away, and stated to him the advantages which they received from apartments and coals and candles; and she says she expressed her wish to him that he would make himself happy and stay, and not to make her unhappy by talking to her of it again, and she says he has never mentioned it to her since, now about two years ago.

MARY ANN SELLIS.

Sworn before me, the
1st June, 1810.

J. READ.

*The Information of ANN HILL, Servant to Mrs.
SELLIS,*

Who, being upon her oath, saith, that she remembers seeing her master as he went from home on Wednesday night last; that she let him out and locked the door after him, and she says that he had on pantaloons and walking-shoes.

The mark X of ANN HILL.

This witness was not sworn.

MIDDLESEX. — *The Information of* SAMUEL THOMAS ADAMS, *Esq. of Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury,*

Who, being upon his oath, saith, that he was called in, this morning, upon the death of a servant of his Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland, whose name is Joseph Sellis; and, upon examination of the port-folio of the said Joseph Sellis, in his bed-room, where he now lies, he found the two letters now produced, marked A. and B. both signed Joseph Sellis, and appearing all in the same hand-writing; one of them addressed to his Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland; the other addressed to Capt. Stephenson. The one is dated 4th May, 1808, and the other is dated July 9, 1809.

SAM. THOS. ADAMS.

Sworn before me, the
31st May, 1810.

J. READ.

*Copy of Letter marked A.**St. James's, July 9, 1808.*

Sir,

I am extremely anxious to know his Royal Highness's decision concerning the evidence produced before you against Mr. Neale, and I beg you, Sir, to have the goodness to relieve me from this most disagreeable suspense; if I may, Sir, judge from appearance, either his Royal Highness is not acquainted with what has been proved, or his Royal Highness has entirely forgiven him; should the former be the case, Sir, I hope you will have the goodness to acquaint his Royal Highness to the full extent of the roguery of this man; and here it may be necessary to say, that the witnesses you have examined are all of them ready to take their oaths in a Court of Justice, and there to assert what they have already said before you; but, Sir, should his Royal Highness have forgiven him, and then I must be under the most disagreeable necessity to beg his Royal Highness to have the goodness to dispose of me as his Royal Highness may think proper, so that I may not have the mortification to live and act in the same room with a man I have convicted as a rogue, and with whom no human being is able to live upon friendly terms. Had it been his Royal

Highness's pleasure to have had this business in a Court of Justice, the man would have been transported at least for seven years; and what I am going to communicate to you now is, I believe, transportation for life. I have been told, Sir, that Mr. Neale cheats his Royal Highness in every thing he buys; in two different articles I have already ascertained this to be the fact, on the tooth-picks he gains 50 per 100, by charging eighteen-pence for that for which he only pays one shilling; and on the soap he charges two shillings for that which he only pays eighteen-pence; and should his Royal Highness wish me to proceed with these discoveries, it will be found that the dishonesty of this man has no bounds. The evidence you have taken, Sir, and what I have communicated to Major Thornton, with which also you must be acquainted, you must, Sir, be satisfied that this man is as great a villain as ever existed; no oath or promise is binding with him, he relates alike that which he must have sworn to keep sacred in his bosom, as he will a most trifling thing, and slanders, and threatens with public exposure and large damages, his benefactor and only maker of his fortune, just as he would one of his own stamp. Sir, to serve his Royal Highness I have always thought it as my greatest honour, and to serve him in any situation that his Royal Highness may be pleased

to place me shall always be the greatest prize of my life, but no longer can I live with this master. I have, Sir, served his Royal Highness nearly twelve years, and would rather forego my wishes and pretensions, and beseech his Royal Highness to allow me permission to look out for another place. To your goodness I trust, that you will lay my case before his Royal Highness, and acquaint me with his Royal Highness's pleasure.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient

And most humble servant

J. SEL

B. C. Stephenson, Esq.

Exhibited to me, May 31,

1810.—J. READ.

Copy of a Letter marked B.

May 4,

May it please your Royal Highness,

I take the liberty to beg
Your Royal Highness would have the goodness to

in your consideration the uncomfortable and most unpleasant way in which I travel. To be upon the carriage-box has always been to me the most disagreeable of all grievances: I have, however, persevered to ride upon it without complaining, to please and gratify your Royal Highness, and in the hopes that when your Royal Highness's Brothers should discontinue to make their servants travel in the same way, that your Royal Highness would be pleased to follow their example. For this reason, I now take the liberty to mention to your Royal Highness, that his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales takes his servants with him in the carriage, or sends them in a post-chaise. The Duke of Sussex has followed the Prince's example, and his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, whenever his Royal Highness cannot take his servant in the carriage, sends him by the stage, or in a post-chaise (livery-servants excepted). I most humbly intreat your Royal Highness to discontinue a thing which has preyed in my mind, and has hurt me more than ten years hard labour could have done.

I have the honour to be,

Your Royal Highness's most faithful,

And most devoted humble Servant,

JOSEPH SELLIS.

Exhibited to me, May 31,

1810.—J. READ.

**MIDDLESEX.—*The farther Information of* SA-
MUEL THOMAS ADAMS, *Esq. Coroner,***

Who, being upon his oath, saith, that he came to the apartment of his Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland about ten o'clock yesterday morning, and after viewing the body of Joseph Sellis, and after finding the letters, mentioned in his former deposition, he looked round the room, and observed a pair of shoes at the foot of the bed, and a pair of half-gaiters in the chair on the left-hand side of the chest of drawers. That, upon observing the door of the room, next the head of the bed, to have no key in it, he made a search for it, and in the closet, the door of which was locked, and which he unlocked, he found the key, which fitted the lock: the door was not locked, but fastened by a small bolt under the lock. And informant farther says that, this morning, he directed a man to search the pockets of the deceased, and, in his presence, he took out of his right hand breeches-pocket a key that unlocked the green-baize door, placed across the gallery.

SAMUEL THOMAS ADAMS.

Sworn before me, this

1st June, 1810,

J. READ.

MIDDLESEX.—*The farther Information of MATTHEW HENRY GRASLIN, Yager to his Royal Highness the Duke of CUMBERLAND,*

Who, being upon his oath, saith that, after he got to the door of Sellis's room, with Mrs. Neale and Benjamin Smith, the porter, and found that Sellis's throat was cut, they thought the murderer was still in the house, and went to get farther assistance; they first called up Ball, then White, and afterwards Strickland and Richardson, who sleep together, in one room. Informant says, he told them all that Sellis had been murdered, and the Duke nearly so: some soldiers were then waiting in the hall, and Ball joined the soldiers and came up stairs with them.—Informant says, that he and Mrs. Neale and Smith, the porter, staid below in the porter's room, — he thinks that not more than ten minutes had passed, when Ball and the soldiers went up stairs, from the time he, Mrs. Neale, and Smith, had left Sellis's room to go for assistance; and, during that interval, he does not believe that any person went to the room.

M. HENRY GRASLIN.

Sworn before me, the
1st of June, 1810,

J. READ.

MIDDLESEX.—The Information of JAMES PAULET, Valet to his Royal Highness the Duke of CUMBERLAND,

Who, being upon his oath, saith, that he was called up by Mrs. Neale, about three o'clock yesterday morning: he first saw the Duke in his own room, Mrs. Neale was holding of him; that he (informant) assisted in holding him: there were then three lights in the room; the Duke said that he was murdered, and that the murderer must be in the room; the doors of the room were open. Mr. Neale wanted to go away to look after the murderer, but the Duke told him not, and desired us to call Sellis. Mrs. Neale went to call Sellis, and some one came and said Sellis was murdered. Informant says, he did not quit the room till Mr. Home, the surgeon, came; and that he, Mr. Home, and Mr. Neale, examined the closet, and found the scabbard of the sword, the lantern, a pair of slippers with Sellis's name in them, and a bottle of water. Informant says, that he staid in the room, with the Duke, till the Prince of Wales and the Duke's other brothers came. Informant farther saith, that he has lived five years with Sellis, but never had much conversation with him; that he was a positive

obstinate man, but not particularly ill-tempered. Informant says, that Neale and Sellis were never friends, they had disputed about the Duke's wardrobe. Informant says, he hath heard Sellis say, that he could not live with the Duke if Neale was kept; and he believes Sellis had a great dislike to Neale: that Sellis, for the last four or five weeks, hath complained of a cold; but informant says, he did not observe much alteration or difference in him.

JAMES PAULET.

Sworn before me, the

1st June, 1810.

J. READ.

MIDDLESEX.—*The Information of FREDERICK GRIVEL, Valet-de-Chambre to his Royal Highness the Duke of CAMBRIDGE,*

Who, being upon his oath, saith, that he has lived with his Royal Highness about 15 years, and has known Sellis about nine years of the time; that he has frequently met him at Windsor, Brighton, Oatlands, and other places; but seldom saw him in London. He was upon very good terms with him, but not very intimate with him; says that, as far as he knew of him, he was a very

quiet, orderly, and sober, man. Informant farther saith, that, about twelve months ago, he was in company with Joseph Sellis, at Windsor, when he appeared dissatisfied of the Duke of Cumberland, saying: that he wished to get a messenger's place; and, that if the Duke had spoken a good word for him, he was sure he could have got one for him; and that, if he, Sellis, could get another place in three months, he would leave his Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland; and that, if he was a single man, and had not a wife and family, he would leave him directly; and farther said, that he was upon ill terms with Neale, the other valet, and that he was so great a scoundrel, he could not bear to live with him. Informant said to him, it was very hard for a person when he lost one place to get another, particularly as he was a foreigner; and he advised Sellis to consider of it. The conversation then ended, and informant has not heard him talk in that way since. That the last time this informant saw Sellis was on the 19th of this month, at Windsor, but he had no particular conversation with him, at that time: he complained of being ill, and said he had laid in bed all Sunday.

F. GRIVEL.

Sworn before me, the
1st of June, 1810.

J. READ.

MIDDLESEX.—*The Information of MARGARET JONES, one of the Housemaids in the service of his Royal Highness the Duke of CUMBERLAND,*

Who, being upon her oath, saith, that she has lived, in the service of the Duke, about 14 weeks : that it is her place to make the butler's bed, the housekeeper's bed, Mr. Sellis's bed, and her own bed. There is a spare bed where the adjutant of his Royal Highness's regiment used to lie, and, when he has slept there, she has had that to make; that she has made Mr. Sellis's bed twice this week, but does not recollect to have made it before, except that she might have made it once when she first came. Mr. Sellis never asked her to do it till this week ; he always asked Sally to make it, and informant believes she did make it : informant farther saith, that she has looked at the lantern which was found in the closet of the room, but says, she never saw it before, and never saw Mr. Sellis with any lantern : informant says, that she was in the housemaid's room on Wednesday night about eight o'clock, Sarah Varley and Sarah Tetherhead were there when Mr. Sellis came in, and desired informant to put his sheets on his bed, as he should sleep there that night ; saying : the Duke was going to Windsor in the morning.

That she afterwards made his bed, and about nine o'clock she saw him go into the Duke's room to dress the Duke, the informant then being in the page's room. Informant says *that, about a quarter past ten o'clock, she was in Mr. Salisbury's (the Duke's steward) sitting-room, to get it ready for the morning, lest it should be wanted before she was up, (Mr. Sellis having said that the Duke was going to Windsor in the morning), and, as she was emptying the wash-hand basin, Mr. Sellis went into his own room, and she then asked him if the Duke was going to Windsor early in the morning: Sellis answered her, that the Duke had said so in the morning, but had not said any thing about it in the evening. The door of Mr. Salisbury's sitting-room opens opposite the door of Mr. Sellis's bed-room, and was wide open: Sellis was in his own room, undressing himself to go to bed; he had got off his coat and waistcoat, and his shoes, and the curtains of the bed were undrawn, ready for him to get into bed. Says, that she saw Sellis undraw the curtains: both the doors of Mr. Sellis's room were open whilst she was speaking to him; Sellis then wished her a good night, and shut the door opposite Mr. Salisbury's room, but she did not hear whether he bolted it or not: informant says that, after she had finished what she had to do in Mr. Salisbury's room, she went up to bed: informant farther says*

that, about half-past eleven o'clock she was awoke out of her sleep by Ann, the kitchen-maid, who sleeps in the same room with informant, and was then coming to bed, and asked her what she had been walking about the passage so long for: informant told her, that it was not her; she said it was very like informant's step, and that it was some person shuffling along in old slippers, and gone up the stairs, leading from the kitchen, to the page's room.

The mark ✕ of MARGARET JONES.

Sworn before me, the

1st June, 1810,

J. READ.

MIDDLESEX.—*The Information of ANN RUD-
DUCK, Kitchen-maid to his Royal Highness the
Duke of CUMBERLAND,*

Who, being upon her oath, saith, that she has lived with his Royal Highness about 12 months; that she has seen Mr. Sellis carry a dark lantern; it was about three weeks ago, as near as she can recollect.—Informant was going up stairs to bed,

and Mr. Sellis was coming from his bed-room; it was a little before eleven; he was going down stairs; she says, they wished each other good night as they passed; the lantern, which he had in his hand, was a round dark lantern, and she has seen him once before with the same lantern, but does not recollect when. Informant says that she was in a room adjoining the kitchen, on Wednesday night, a little before eleven; Mary Saxby was with her, and they heard a noise, made by some person, in the passage adjoining the room where they were sitting, and they thought Margaret was not gone to bed; but, upon going up to bed afterwards, she found her asleep, and she has not discovered who it was that she heard walking about; all the women servants were then in bed except herself and Mary Saxby, and she believes all the men also, except those who were out with the Duke.

ANN RUDDUCK.

Sworn before me, the

1st June, 1810,

J. READ.

MIDDLESEX.—*The Information of SARAH
WILSON,*

Who, upon her oath, saith, that she lives with Mrs. Combe, wife of Mr. Alderman Combe, as her maid, with whom she has lived ten years; that about the year 1796 (to the best of her recollection as to the time), she left England in the service of John Barker Church, then of Berkeley-square, Esq. and sailed for America; a man named Joseph Sellis, an Italian, and whom she believes, from what she has heard, to be the same person that has since been in the service of his Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland, went with them, in the capacity of valet to Mr. Church. They arrived at New York, and Joseph Sellis continued in the service of Mr. Church about a year and a half, when Mr. Church discharged him, suspecting that he had robbed his desk. She says that Joseph Sellis remained three weeks in the service of Mr. Church after the robbery, before Mr. Church accused him, Mr. Church having examined all the servants, to endeavour to find out the person who had committed the robbery, and Sellis assisted his master in so doing, without any suspicion alighting upon him at that time, and during the inquiry no person was accused.

The habits of Mr. Church were to have Joseph Sellis sit up for him whenever he went out ; but when he staid at home he used to have his nightgown and slippers after supper, and send Sellis to bed. After all attempts to find out the robbers had failed, Mr. Church recollected, that, on the night the robbery was committed, he had sent Joseph Sellis to bed, and after that he had fallen asleep in the parlour, and had been awoke by a noise which occasioned him to rouse himself, and he then got up and went to bed ; and the recollection of this circumstance led Mr. Church to suspect that Joseph Sellis had come to see whether he was gone to bed or not ; and it was the next day morning when Mr. Church heard his desk had been broken open and robbed. Mr. Church upon this accused Sellis as being the person who had robbed him, but had no proofs against him, except finding a hammer in his possession, the claws of which fitted the marks which were made in the desk. Sellis answered, that he did not mind Mr. Church's accusation, as he knew himself to be innocent, and appeared very calm, and seemed to care nothing about it. Mr. Church not being satisfied with his denial of the robbery, turned Sellis away. Informant says, there was an examination of Sellis before a magistrate at New York ; but nothing came of it, as there was no proof against him, and Sellis was not put into

any confinement. This informant farther saith, that, soon after this, she heard from Mr. Philip Church that Joseph Sellis had left New York and was gone to Philadelphia, and this informant says, she has lost sight of Sellis from that hour to this, and she has never since seen him. Informant farther saith, that she hath often heard Sellis say, whilst in Mr. Church's family at New York, when sitting at table in her presence, damn the English King and all the Royal Family, the Government, and all Kings, and it is a pity that they were not done away with; and that he said it in a most malicious voice and looks. Many arguments arose upon this which occasioned him to *damn the Almighty*; and she believes him to have been a very morose, malicious, man, and very inveterate against this country. Informant saith that, whilst Sellis was at New York, she heard that he had been paying his addresses to some English woman residing in England, and that he then kept up correspondence with her, which occasioned this informant to deal favourably by him, thinking that, by marrying her, he might become reformed. Informant saith, that she has been led to understand that he was living in the service of one of the Royal Dukes, but did not hear which, and that he had married and had children, but she has never seen him since he left Mr. Church's service in America; says it may

have been six or seven years ago since she first heard that Sellis was living with one of the Royal Dukes, and she has frequently inquired after Sellis from the Royal servants when the Prince and the Duke of York have been at Mr. Alderman Combe's beef-steak dinners, but never could hear of him by that time; the reason she never mentioned the character of Sellis to any one particularly was, thinking that his marriage with an Englishwoman, and the number of years which had elapsed since he was in America, had altered his character and habits of thinking, and she never even mentioned it to Mrs. Combe until she told her what had happened in the Duke of Cumberland's family. Informant says that she is not acquainted with any of the domestics of the Duke of Cumberland, nor any of their connections. Informant saith, that she never recollects having seen a man of the name of Ferdinand Burzio either in America or in England.

SARAH WILSON.

Sworn before me, the

3d June 1810,

J. READ.

MIDDLESEX.—*The Information of MARTHA PERKINS, wife of JOHN PERKINS, both Servants to JOHN BARNARD, Esq. of Great Queen-street, Lincoln's Inn-fields,*

Who, upon her oath, saith, that she went from England to live in the family of John Barker Church, in America, and found Sarah Wilson and Joseph Sellis there, and she recollects the circumstance of Mr. Church having been robbed, and that Sellis was accused of it and turned away in the manner that Sarah Wilson has described it; and informant farther saith that she has been present and very frequently heard Joseph Sellis say, *Damn the King and all the Royal Family of England*, and she once heard him say that *he was the man who had thrown the stone at the King in going to the House of Commons*. Informant says, that she left America in the year 1799, and never saw Sellis until about six years ago, when she first met him in Gerrard street; she just stopped and spoke to him; she told him she had heard that he lived with one of the Royal Family; he answered that he did, but he did not say with which, and she did not ask him; and she says she never knew which of the Dukes he lived with until she heard it from Sarah Wilson yesterday. Informant says that she met Sellis again about three years

ago in Oxford-road ; they stopped and inquired after each other's health, and informant asked him if he lived in the same place ; he answered he did, but did not tell her where it was nor with whom he lived ; he was dressed in plain common clothes both times when she saw him ; says that she heard some time ago that Sellis had married an English woman, but does not recollect who told her, or how or when she heard it ; says she thought him a very improper man to live in the Royal Family, but she forbore to mention what she knew of his character and conduct, because he had married an English woman, and she did not like to do him an injury ; and she hoped that, from the circumstances of his having connected himself with an English woman, that his manners and character altered ; does not think that she should have mentioned it now if Sarah Wilson had not called upon her to do it. Informant saith that, knowing the former character of Joseph Sellis, she was not so much surprised as she would otherwise have been, had she not known it, when she was told what had happened, on Thursday last, in the Duke of Cumberland's family.

MARTHA PERKINS.

Sworn before me, the

3d June. 1810,

J. READ.

MIDDLESEX. — *The Information of* ROBERT LUTMAN, *of Norton-Street, Fitzroy-Square, Cheesemonger,*

Who, being upon his oath, saith, that he knew Joseph Sellis, who lived with his Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland, and has known him for about fifteen years. Informant says, he then was living with Mr. Church, in the character of groom. Mr. Church then lived in Sackville-Street. Sellis was then out of place, and, there being a French cook and a French butler in Mr. Church's family, Sellis came to visit them, and informant, in that manner, became acquainted with him. Mr. Church moved to Berkeley-Square, and afterwards went out to America. Whilst Mr. Church lived in Berkeley-Square, Sellis came to live with him as his valet, and, in the month of March, 1797, went, with the family, to America, and continued in Mr. Church's service at New York, until the latter end of the year 1798. Informant says that a person, named Ann Wilson, was, at that time, living with Mr. Church, and Martha Williams, who has since married a man named John Perkins. Informant says, that he does not think there could have been a man more disaffected to the government of this country

than Sellis was, and also to the Royal Family. He has heard Sellis frequently say, *Damn the King and the Royal Family*; and once heard him say that he was the man who had thrown the stones at his Majesty as he was going to the House of Commons. Informant says, he has never seen Sellis since he left Mr. Church's service, in America: says that about five years ago Joseph Orpwood, a fellow-servant of his, whom he lived with at Mr. Church's, called upon him, and told informant that he had seen Sellis, and that he lived with the Duke of Cumberland. Informant says, that he expressed great surprise to Joseph Orpwood, that such a rascal as Sellis could get to live with the Duke of Cumberland, and wondered who could have given him a character, this informant believing him to be a very unfit man, from his disaffected character, to live with any of the Royal Family. Informant says, that Sellis was suspected of having robbed Mr. Church's desk, and, on that account, Mr. Church turned him away; and this informant says, he has never seen him since, but he believes him to be the same Joseph Sellis who has lived with his Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland.

ROBERT LUTMAN,

Sworn before me, the

5th of June, 1810,

J. READ.

MIDDLESEX.—*The farther Information of SARAH
VARLEY, House-maid,*

Who, being upon her oath, saith, that about eight or nine months ago, when Mr. Imms was living with the Duke in the capacity of steward, she missed a poker, that was belonging to the page's sitting-room, for several days, and during the time it was missing, Mr. Neale asked her after it three or four times, and she could give no account of it. When, about three or four days after it had been missed, as she was making the bed of the page in waiting, and pulling out the bedstead, a poker fell from behind the bed, and thinks it fell upon her foot; it either fell upon her foot or on the floor, she cannot recollect which. She says that she picked it up, and placed it in the page's sitting-room, where it belonged. She does not recollect whether she told Mr. Neale that she found the poker again, or whether he asked her about it, but she is very sure that there was some conversation between her and Mr. Neale about the poker, after it was found, but the particulars of it she does not now recollect. Nothing since has passed about the poker till yesterday, when she was in the page's sitting-room. Mr. Salisbury, (the Duke's Steward,) Mr. Neale, Mrs. Ward,

and Mr. Paulet, were present; something was said upon the bad conduct of Sellis, when she recollected the circumstance of the poker, and thought it right to mention it, and she related it in the same way she has done now, and said nothing more about it. Informant farther saith, that, at the time she lost the poker, Mr. Sellis was in waiting. Informant farther saith that, a few days before, or a little time after, she missed the poker, she discovered (as she was making the bed) a little pistol wrapped up in a small green bag, hanging at the head of the bed, which rather alarmed her, lest it might have been loaded. She did not mention this to any one, not even to the maids down stairs, and it continued hanging there at intervals, until within this fortnight or three weeks, and, since that time, she has not seen it, and does not know who took it away, nor did she ever mention the circumstance till last night, when Mrs. Neale said it belonged to Mr. Sellis; but before this time she thought the pistol belonged to Mr. Neale.

SARAH VARLEY,

Sworn before me, the
1st of June, 1810.

J. READ.

MIDDLESEX. — *The Information of JAMES PAULET, one of the Pages to his Royal Highness the Duke of CUMBERLAND,*

Who, being upon his oath, saith, that he was, last night, in the page's waiting-room, Mrs. Neale and two maids were there, but does not recollect that any man was there besides himself. Sarah Varley was one of the maids, and who mentioned the circumstance of a poker having been mislaid some months ago, which she said she had discovered, a short time afterwards, behind the bed of the page in waiting, and she also said, that (a short time either before or after it) she had discovered a pistol hanging at the bed's head in a small bag: informant says that, upon hearing this, he recommended it to her to mention every thing that she had seen, as it was right every thing she had seen should be now properly mentioned, and soon afterwards he bade them all a good night, and went home without hearing any observations being made to it; and does not remember whether Mrs. Neale said any thing or not in answer to what Sarah Varley had said about the pistol. Informant farther saith that, about three weeks ago, being in the page's waiting-room with Mr. and Mrs. Neale, a conversation

took place upon something that had passed between informant and Sellis in the morning; it related to a push that Sellis had given him; and informant says, that he said he did not like things done between joke and earnest, and Neale said, you don't know Sellis; you have not been here long enough. It then occurred to this informant, that he had once seen a pistol behind the head of the waiting-page's bed, and he then told Mr. Neale that he had often thought to mention it to him, but had always forgot it, and added, that he was sorry he had not taken possession of the pistol, and that, if he thought that any such thing were there then, he would not sleep in the room. Neale then answered, in the presence of his wife, that he (Neale) would not sleep without it, and there is one there now. Informant then said, for God's sake fetch it out; which Neale immediately did in the presence of his wife, and said there it is, and I keep that for my safety; it was in a bag—he, Neale, then locked it up in a glass-case, which stands in the page's room, and of which Neale keeps the key, and this informant believes, from what the girl mentioned last night, that it must have been the same pistol which she had seen: Neale went on to say, that as you (meaning the informant) don't like it, you had better not mention any thing about it: informant said afterwards, that he detested having any fire-arms:

in his room, and if any thing of that sort happened again, he would tell the Duke of it.

JAMES PAULET,

Sworn before me, the

1st of June, 1810,

J. READ.

MIDDLESEX. — *The Information of* CORN.
NEALE, *one of the Valets of his Royal High-*
ness the Duke of CUMBERLAND,

Who, being upon his oath, saith that, about nine or ten months ago his character had been attacked by Joseph Sellis, (one of the other pages,) before the Duke of Cumberland, by calling him a thief; and he also made other charges against him, which were afterwards investigated by Captain Stephenson, Major Thornton, and Mr. Watson, and found to be untrue; but, notwithstanding which, he (informant) discovered an evil disposition from Sellis towards him; that he thought it right to hang a pistol at the head of his bed, in the waiting-page's bedroom; it is a small, double-barrelled, pistol, and was kept loaded, and hung in a red bag on the

bed-post. Informant says the pistol is his, and he believes it to be the same pistol as had been described, by Sarah Varley, in her examination, and that he placed the pistol there to protect himself; and says that it has constantly hung there until within these three weeks, as well when the other pages slept there as when he slept there himself, it being the bed-room of the waiting-page on duty. Informant farther saith that, about three weeks ago, hearing from Mr. Paulet, one of the other pages, that he disliked to have the pistol there, he took it away and locked it up in a cupboard in the page's waiting-room, where it has been ever since.

CORNELIUS NEALE

Sworn before me, the
1st of June, 1810,

J. READ.

AN ACCOUNT OF THE CORONER'S INQUEST.

On the 1st of June, an inquisition was taken, by Samuel Thomas Adams, Esq. coroner of the king's household, and the verge, on view of the body of the deceased, at the apartments of his Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland, in the Kitchen-Court, St. James's, when, after a long investigation, the jury brought in a verdict of—Felo-de-se. The following is a list of the persons sworn on

THE JURY:

| | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|----------------|----------------------|
| Francis Place | - - - | Charing-Cross, | Man's Mercer. |
| Thomas Noble | - - - | Ditto, | Ironmonger. |
| John Wall | - - - | Ditto, | Boot-Maker. |
| John Thomas | - - - | Ditto, | Butcher. |
| Thomas King | - - - | Ditto, | Man's Mercer. |
| John Brookes | - - - | Ditto, | Silversmith. |
| Joseph Ingleton | - - | Ditto, | Carver and Gilder. |
| Thomas Woolbert | - | Ditto, | Hatter. |
| Stephen Tapster | - - | Ditto, | Victualler. |
| Joseph Fuller | - - - | Ditto, | Hatter. |
| Richard Whitmore | - | Ditto, | Bookseller. |
| Robert Kell | - - - - | Ditto, | Tallow-Chandler. |
| Thos. Alex. Harvey, | St. Martin's Lane, Bricklayer. | | |
| James Grey | - - - - | Charing-Cross, | Grocer. |
| John Horseman | - - | Ditto, | Coffee-House-Keeper. |
| Francis Welch | - - - | Ditto, | Victualler. |
| William Wright | - - | Ditto, | Baker. |



A LETTER

TO

W. I. Esq.

Dear Sir,

YOU are pleased to call upon me for some correct account of the late attempt to assassinate the Duke of Cumberland. And your politeness accompanies this request with an apology; but you have more reason to expect obedience than to sue for pardon on such an occasion. For you observe, with truth, that not only events in general are magnified or diminished by distance and repetition, but that the most common occurrences of life are subject to misconception and mistatement. This event, however, far from being common, is so singular in its nature, and dark in its designs, that it would be matter of real surprise if it did not give birth to erroneous opinions. The motives of your inquiry therefore, and the interest which it seems to excite in your part of the world, would insure my

attention to such solicitations from a stranger; but, from you, requests are commands, which give pleasure in the performance.

My proximity to this scene of blood and treachery has enabled me to avail myself fully of the opportunity afforded to the public during several days. I have endeavoured, therefore, to develop the leading circumstances; and, for your satisfaction, I transmit a Plan of the Duke's Apartments, and shall enter into some detail. As the chief agent in this murderous scene exists no more, no simple view could be taken of the object through the medium of the criminal: we must investigate it in its various circumstances and relations. But, in reality, it is circumstances that give the distinguishing colour to human actions; for by their discriminating effects, in human concerns, we arrive at truth: and, without the aid of circumstances, we must often remain without chart or compass, port or pilot.

The facts which I communicate are, I believe, correct; and, if the observations be erroneous, I am alone responsible for them; for I have neither authority nor mission, but that which you were pleased to confide to me,—to communicate the truth.

The Duke of Cumberland, being President of the Royal Navy Asylum, dined, on the 30th of May, with his Majesty's commissioners and the

officers of that establishment, at Greenwich. On his return to St. James's Palace, in the evening, he dressed to go to a public concert. Sellis assisted to dress his Royal Highness, but was dispensed from farther attendance that night, at nearly half-past nine o'clock, as he had complained of indisposition during some days. The page in waiting for the night was Mr. Neale. As soon as the Duke returned home from the concert, and retired to bed, about twelve o'clock, Neale did the same. The Duke's bed-room, marked A, contains an alcove marked B, wherein stood the bed of his Royal Highness, and which is separated from the bed-room of the page in waiting, marked C, by a brick wall.* The communication, however, between the Duke's and the page's bed-room is through a passage, D. wherein there are three doors, 1, 2, 3, none†

* It had been supposed that they had been separated by a wooden partition. But it appears now that a wall divides them, which is so thick that a person having gone into the Duke's bed-room, and made considerable noise, was scarcely heard by another, in Neale's bed-chamber, though listening on purpose. This accounts clearly for Neale not having heard the attack made on the Duke, and who was also asleep at the time.

† The locks of these doors have common spring bolts, which are all turned by handles, except one; and this one, instead of being opened by a handle on the outside toward the page's room, is opened by a key, which remained constantly in the lock all night, for the purpose of the page's entrance, if necessary,

of which was locked at night. The other sole door of entrance E. from the house into the Duke's bed-chamber, was always locked at night.

The Duke having been some time asleep, was suddenly awakened, about a quarter before three o'clock in the morning, by sensations, as if struck by a bat, or something similar, on his head; but the repeated blows of a sabre soon made him sensible that he was in the hands of a murderer. His bed being inclosed in the alcove, B. left him no alternative but to rush on the danger. Resolute and vigorous, he defended himself with his naked arms; but his sight not being good, and the room being nearly dark, as there was only a small lamp burning at a distance on the hearth, and behind a horse covered with clothes, he could not discern any thing but sudden gleams and flashes, probably of the brandished sabre: or it may have been a scintillation of the eyes, which arose from the blows received by his Royal Highness. In his exertions to defend himself, he once caught the sabre, which had been rendered as sharp as a razor some days before.* The as-

* Some sabres of the Duke's regiment having been submitted to the examination of his Royal Highness, they were ordered by him to be sent to Prosser, the sword-cutler; and, by mistake, his Royal Highness's sabre was sent with the others. When it was returned, its extreme sharpness was remarked by one of the Duke's gentlemen, who observed, that if a blow should be

sassin, by drawing it through his Royal Highness's hand, cut the flesh entirely open that connects the fore-finger with the thumb of the right hand, and likewise the fingers which were closed upon it; such wounds rendered it impossible for the Duke to hold the sabre. His Royal Highness, having raised his left arm to protect his head, received a wound on the joint of the left wrist. He also received another severe wound, while endeavouring to defend himself, across the tendons and sinews on the back of his right hand. He received altogether three wounds on his neck, one on his head, five on his right hand, one on his left arm, one on his left wrist, one on his leg, and one on his thigh. Having got out of bed, and turning to the door, No. 1, which opens into the passage leading to the page's room, and calling for assistance, the assassin made a last cut at him. This blow first wounded his Royal Highness on the thigh, and, after wounding him, cut a piece out of the door, by which the sabre was bent. The curvature of the sabre fits exactly into the incision in the door; and, as it is the point of the sabre that is bent, it is possible this last effort to destroy the Duke was a thrust made at him by the assassin, and not a cut.

given with it, the edge must be turned. And his remark was verified, for its edge is completely turned in various places, from the blows received by the Duke,

The Duke having opened the doors, 1, 2, 3, and called Neale, the assassin became alarmed, and fled for his safety. Neale joined the Duke instantly, and, entering, with his Royal Highness, into his bed-chamber, he perceived the sole door of thoroughfare E from the Duke's chamber open and exclaimed, "the assassins are still in the apartments." Rushing to the fire-place, F. he seized the poker: then advancing towards the open door E to pursue the murderer, he trod upon the naked sabre, G. which the assassin had cast from him in his flight. Neale snatched it up to pursue the murderer; but the effusion of blood from the Duke's wounds became so vast as to make it necessary to call for instant assistance, and to rouse the servants. The Duke and Neale descended directly down stairs, by the double line, passing through 1, 2, 3, hh. KK. Neale entered the porter's apartments, to rouse him. The porter, being awaked suddenly out of his sleep, and beholding Neale pale agitated and exclaiming "The Duke is murdered," and standing with a bloody sabre in his hand, and the Duke appearing in a bloody shirt with the blood streaming from every wound, he began to scream with horror. A scene so frightful, and so unexpected, was sufficient to overawe the alarmed spirits with an impression of something rather visionary than real. Orders were instantly given by the Duke, that

the two doors of the house should be strictly guarded, and that no person whatever should be suffered to go out. Faint, through loss of blood, His Royal Highness directed Sellis, who was his favourite Page, to be called to his assistance. The servants ran by the great stairs K. through the gallery LL and by the lobby M. to the door of Sellis's room N. They knocked violently at his door, N. which was fastened inside, and cried out, "Sellis, the Duke is murdered," but no answer was returned. Sellis's family had apartments in another part of the palace, near the King's public rooms, where he slept when he was not in waiting. There is a passage to the King's public rooms by the gallery LLPPP. from the Duke's house: across which there is a baize door, QQ. that is always kept locked, and for which Sellis and the Duke's housekeeper alone had keys. The servants, not being able to pass this way to Sellis's apartments, desired the *Jager* to go down stairs, and cross through the courts to Sellis's apartments, in order to bring him to the Duke: he accordingly went down, but, not knowing the way perfectly, he returned. The Duke's porter then went, and taking some of the guards with him, he stationed them at the door, under the arch-way, between the Lord Steward's Court and the Kitchen-Court: and, entering this door, ascended

himself by the common staircase, which led to the apartments of Sellis and others in that part of the Palace. He knocked at Sellis's door, and asked for him ; one of Sellis's children answered and said, that he had slept at the Duke's the night before, in order to attend his Royal Highness early to Windsor. Sellis himself had also told some of the Duke's servants that he should go to Windsor in the morning.

The porter, having returned from Sellis's family-apartments, went and knocked again at the door of his chamber N in the Duke's house, but no answer was given. He then went around with the servants, through the gallery LL. across the lobby of the great staircase R. and by the doors SS and T. following the dotted line to the right-hand, in order to get entrance into Sellis's chamber by another door U. On approaching this door, they heard a strange gurgling noise mixed with a sound of agony ; and coming near to the door, from which there is a descent of three steps into Sellis's room, the sound became more horrible. Some of them, alarmed, cried out, " Good God, they have murdered Sellis also; they are still here, let us get assistance," and ran back in terror. They hastened to the Kitchen-Court, and called the guard, who entered the apartments, armed. Proceeding to Sellis's room, they found him with his throat cut entirely across, and deeply,

to the bone ; his body warm, and the blood still frothing in his throat. It was evident this horrid act had been just committed with a bloody razor V. which lay near the bed, on which he was stretched. All the apartments were searched most carefully by the guards and servants, with the view of finding the murderers ; but in vain.

Such is the detail of facts. It may now be satisfactory to enter into the circumstantial and personal evidence in this case, in order to decide whether or not Sellis was the ungrateful monster, who, having first attacked the life of his royal benefactor, then turned his murderous hands upon himself, and became his own executioner.

After the most thorough investigation made by the coroner, the jury, and other persons, there seems not to be a shadow of doubt that Sellis was the murderer. It appears that the Duke had dispensed with his services for the night, at nearly half-past nine ; but Sellis, notwithstanding, did not sleep in his family-apartments, near the King's public rooms. He framed, as a pretence for sleeping in his chamber O. at the Duke's, that he was commanded to attend his Royal Highness the next morning to Windsor. This was, however, false ; for the Duke had never spoken to him on the subject, nor had his Royal Highness any intention whatever of going to Windsor. Besides, Sellis did not strip and go to bed as he usually did,

on such occasions, in his chamber at the Duke's. He was found murdered, lying outside the bed-clothes, and dressed, with the exception of his coat, cravat, and slippers. And from the evidence of those circumstances, and the depositions of the servants, it is demonstrable that Sellis was the intended assassin of his royal master, and the actual one of himself.

The night before, at about a quarter past ten o'clock, while Margaret Jones was occupied in W. the room of Mr. Salisbury the steward, Sellis was in O. his own chamber opposite, and the doors of both N. and X. were open. She had previously put water into the ewer of his wash-hand stand: he desired her, however, to bring him some water. She thus found the ewer had been emptied, but where was not known, for there was no appearance of his having used it. He had probably, therefore, poured it into the bottle, which was afterwards found in the place of his concealment. She brought more water, and Sellis took off his coat and shoes, drew back the curtains, and the clothes of his bed. And, as it might be supposed he was then going to undress entirely for the purpose of getting into bed, he wished her good night, and shut the door of his chamber. But when he was found murdered, he was outside his bed-clothes ; he was also dressed, with the exception, before stated, of his coat,

cravat, and slippers. And it was clear that he was murdered in this dress; for the stream, issuing from his throat as he lay horizontally on his back, formed one complete mass of blood from his neck to his knees. His arms and hands were stretched straight down by his sides, without the least appearance whatever of his having struggled with any person, and the bloody razor lay open on the ground, about two feet from his bed-side. The drawer of his bureau, which he had opened to get the razor, remained open with the key in it; the razor-case lay open in the drawer, with one razor deficient. That he murdered himself, therefore, after an attempt to murder the Duke, is beyond doubt: and it will appear evident from further circumstances.

Sellis's coat was thrown across the back of a chair, at about six or seven feet from the head of his bed, and was spotted with large drops of blood. If he had gone to bed with his coat off, and had been murdered by another person, how came Sellis's coat to be bloody? And, since bloody, how came it to be spotted and stained with large drops of blood? For the blood, which evidently issued from his own wound, exhibited one continued stream, and formed one condensed mass or sheet of blood, which covered him from his neck to his knees. Besides, if the blood had even issued from his throat otherwise than it actually did,

it could not have reached so far as where the coat lay on the chair; and if it had reached so far, it could not have done so without the intervening space of the floor, between the bed and the chair, being marked by the commencement or gradual cessation of the blood issuing so far. And, besides, if it had reached so far, without any such intermediate marks from increase or decrease of force, it could not have possibly affected his coat as it lay; for the bloody side of the coat was inward, as the coat was thrown across the back of the chair; and the side outward, next to the bed, had no blood upon it. It is therefore clear and incontrovertible, that this blood on his coat neither was, nor could possibly have been, blood that flowed from his own wound. Whence then did it come? Certainly from the wounds of the Duke: during his Royal Highnesses exertions to defend himself, and the tossing of his bleeding hands and arms: which were likewise covered with blood, streaming from the wounds on his head and neck. His blood flew eight feet high around the walls of his bed-chamber, besprinkling the portrait of Pichegru and spotting other pictures with large drops of blood, precisely in the same manner as Sellis's coat appeared. They were like effects from like causes. And Sellis was demonstratively the assassin who, having first attempted to murder the Duke, afterwards destroyed himself.

Had any other person been the assassin, he must have been found, for he could not have escaped by either of the two doors into the Kitchen-Court. It was utterly impossible he could have done so before the alarm was given, for the doors were locked; and it was equally impossible he could have done so afterwards, for the doors were strictly guarded by centinels. There was, consequently, no other way of escape left, but, either out of the gallery-windows into the Kitchen-court, where the centinels actually were, or out of the drawing-room windows into Cleveland-Row. But, in such an event, a window must have been left open by the fugitive; which, however, did not happen: and, indeed, either way escape was impracticable and impossible.

Now it is obvious the assassin could not have escaped after the alarm, the door having been guarded by centinels: neither can it be supposed that he escaped by any mode whatever before the alarm: for no assassin could have had time to murder Sellis, in the period between his flying from the Duke's room and the alarm being given, without the servants having either caught or heard him. Whereas there was no noise, no struggle, in Sellis's room, when the alarm was given; nor were Sellis's expiring agonies heard until some time after the alarm. It is clear, therefore, that the assassin could not have escaped out of the Pa-

lace, either before the alarm or after the alarm, until the search was made. And when the search was made, it proved vain. The assassin also could not have murdered Sellis before the attack on the Duke, otherwise Sellis's agonies of death would have been terminated long before the time they were heard to commence. For his head had been nearly severed from his body. It seems incontrovertible, therefore, from the combination of circumstances, that Sellis was the assassin who attempted the Duke's life, and that there could be no other who destroyed his own.

This act of suicide appears likewise, from the circumstances of the case, to have been committed during the period that the servants were going from the door of his chamber, marked N. by the letters M.L.L.R.S.T.: and along the dotted line toward the right, to the door marked U. in order to get entrance into his chamber by this latter door; having knocked for that purpose in vain at the former, both before they went to search for him at his family apartments and on their return. For, all was quiet in his chamber when they knocked the first and last time at the door N. But while Smith was knocking loudly, the last time at Sellis's door, with the handle of the sword, Mrs. Neale happened to stand opposite to the point; he desired her to step aside, or, perhaps, she might be wounded by the sword. Mrs. Neale

replied, finding it vain to knock longer, "*Let us go round to the other door.*" Sellis, who heard these remarks, was thus informed of the servants being in search of him, and armed. But while they were going round, it is evident he committed the atrocious act on himself. For, on approaching the door U. that horrid noise alarmed the servants, which was occasioned by the immediate operation of his breath on the blood issuing from the immense wound in his throat.

This circumstantial evidence, also, is further corroborated by the satisfactory testimony of various persons; and by the proof of unerring facts. The night before the commission of these atrocious crimes, Thomas Strickland, under butler to the Duke, carried his Royal Highness's cup, to place it on a stand at his bedside, at nearly eleven o'clock. But, on entering the Duke's room, he found Sellis in it. He was not surprised, however, to see him there, at so late an hour, as he did not know but he was in waiting. The fact was, however, that he had been dismissed for the night, and had no business there, and was not in waiting. As Strickland carried in the drink, Sellis looked steadfastly at him, and smiled, but in a manner that he did not understand.* Sellis had some white linen in

* Strickland says the smile was most extraordinary; and it made such an impression on him, that he intended to tell Rich-

MINUTE DETAILS OF

his hand, which circumstance it is necessary to bear in mind : but neither of them spoke to the other. Strickland went away, and left Sellis in the Duke's bed-chamber A. It is of importance to observe here, that Strickland saw Margaret Jones had seen and conversed with him in his own room, at a quarter past ten o'clock at which time he partly stripped himself, pretended to go to bed, wished her a good night, shut his door. Instead, however, of going to bed it appears that he took off his clothes for the purpose of putting on others, for his horrid wardrobe. He had worn, in the morning, a dark-coloured coat and pantaloons ; he changed them for a blue coat, and an old light-coloured pair of stocking web pantaloons, which he had thrown aside for nearly a year before. It was in this dress he made his murderous attack on the Duke and, with whose blood, it was covered in numerous and large spots. But, without doubt, it was Sellis's original design to have changed his clothes, and put on the same again which he wore in the morning. He had not, however, time to effect this. And, to be caught in bloody dress, would have been nearly the

wardson of it, if he had seen him before he went to bed. Wardson was another of the servants with whom Strickland

as to be caught in the bloody act. He, therefore, determined to destroy himself.

Sarah Varley, house-maid to the Duke, stated, that between nine and ten o'clock she took off the bolsters, which ornamented the Duke's bed by day, and placed them the preceding night in a press Y. which is in the closet Z. within the Duke's bed-chamber. She locked this press Y. leaving the key in the door, as she did every night, and there was nothing in the press besides these bolsters. On searching the rooms in the morning, when the alarm was given, there were found in this press these bolsters rolled up so as to form a seat, on which some one had sat; a pair of slippers, with Sellis's name written inside, in Sellis's hand-writing; the scabbard, belonging to the Duke's sabre which the assassin had cast away from him after his murderous use of it; a dark lantern, and a bottle of water. The lantern was probably to afford him light for his ulterior views, after he had successfully executed his bloody purposes. The bottle of water was probably to refresh himself, if overcome by agitation, or, if faint, while shut up in so small a space as a press, of twenty inches wide, waiting for the dead of night, and brooding over the murderous deeds he was about to execute. The bottle, which contained the water, was one of the bottles used for lavender-water, which had

probably been bought for the Duke's use : and it was, into this bottle, most likely, that Sellis, having emptied the water, which Margaret Jones had previously put into his ewer, then asked her for more. Sarah Varley deposed she had seen a lantern, like to that found in the closet, in Sellis's hand, once or twice, in the gallery, and also standing on the dressing-table. Sellis's wife deposed, that Sellis, on quitting her the night before, took his clean linen with him : and Thomas Strickland deposed; that Sellis had some white bundle in his hand when he saw him in the Duke's bed-chamber. This was probably his clean linen, which he made use of to roll the dark lantern and water-bottle in, for the purpose of concealing them, until he took his place in the press, where he locked himself in. For the key was found inside the door next morning, whereas Sarah Varley swore she locked the door when she put the bolsters in, between nine and ten o'clock, the night before, and, consequently, the key must have been then outside. Sarah Varley also deposed, that she had shut all the doors of the different rooms, except the door U. the night before. But, on the alarm being given in the morning, the doors of every room but one were open, from the Duke's bed-chamber to Sellis's room : and all the doors were marked with blood the whole way of the as-

assassin's flight. But only these sides of the doors, which were next to the Duke's bed-chamber A. were thus marked with blood; on which it was necessary the assassin should put his hand, in order to open them in his flight to Sellis's room O. On descending the steps aa. into Sellis's room, the assassin smeared the door-post, broadly, with blood, on the right-hand side. Sellis was a right-handed man,* and the doors being narrow, the bloody cuff of the arm, which he had used in the attack on the Duke, might have rubbed against it, in his hurry, while rushing into the room. It appears, also, that Sarah Varley closed all the shutters the night before; but the next morning the tops of the two remotest shutters' cc. dd. of the drawing-room DD. were found open, so as to give light at the two extremities of this long room; and the upper parts of the shutters in the other rooms. This was done, obviously, to facilitate escape from the Duke's chamber to Sellis's. The line drawn from the press Y. where he concealed himself, until he issued forth, to his royal benefactor's bed B. to destroy him in the midst of sleep, shews this assassin's short passage, from the intended scene

* Sellis was equally adroit with his left hand in the use of a razor: it was his office always to shave the Duke: had his malignity no object but the destruction of his Royal Highness, he had it daily in his power to execute such intentions.

of murder to the place of real execution O. where he inflicted an awful punishment on himself, by self-murder. Ann Rudduck, and Mary Saxby, deposed, that, after all the servants had retired to rest, they had been frightened, while sitting below stairs, by the tread of a foot. They went up stairs to Margaret Jones, after eleven o'clock, to ask if she had been below: but finding her in bed, they told her that they had heard some person shuffling about, as if walking in slippers, and hoped no one had got into the palace. There was a small oil lamp that always burned below, during the night; this was carried away. It was found, however, on the following morning, in the page's room, EE. next the Duke's bed-chamber; but it was not known by whom it was brought there. It was said, that Sellis, perhaps, had taken it to pour the oil out of the lamp into his dark-lantern. It appears, also, that the key of the press, in which he concealed himself, was fresh oiled; and likewise the key of the door E. out of the Duke's bed-room: and no one in the house knew of those keys having been oiled. Sellis, very probably, oiled the key of the press, in order that he might open it unheard, to proceed to his murderous work; and it is not unlikely that he oiled the key of the Duke's bed-room also, in order that he might unlock it unheard, before he began the intended assassination, with a view of facilitating escape, in case of his failure.

If circumstances and facts and the concurring testimony of different witnesses have any weight in the scale of human judgment, those now before us seem conclusive. This man's pretence of going to Windsor, which was never intended by the Duke; his having been seen in the Duke's room after he was dismissed, and where he had no business that night; his pretence to go to bed, by drawing back the curtains and the bed-clothes, under which, however, he was not found, nor had he even undressed himself for the purpose of going to bed; his slippers, with his name written inside, left in the press; also the lavender-bottle, with the water probably of his own ewer, left in the press; likewise the dark-lantern which, the maid deposed, was like to that she had seen in his possession before, being found in the press: also the scabbard of the sabre, which was cast away by the assassin, being found in the press, are facts which, when considered separately and collectively, form a combined and solid basis of conviction. But there are still additional circumstances, strongly demonstrative of this man's guilt.* That press also was the sole place

* It appears, that, Sellis had taken out his watch and hung it up in his room, probably that the ticking of it should not be heard, while he sate silently, so many hours, in the press, which was near to the Duke's bed-chamber and water-closet, and between both.

wherein he could have concealed himself: which is a circumstance that could have been known but to some inmate of the Duke's house. And, likewise, if he had not concealed himself there before the Duke went to bed, he could not have entered the Duke's chamber afterwards; for the door E. was always locked on the Duke's going to bed. And the other sole way of entrance must have been through the page's room, EE: and across the page's bed-room door ff, close to the page's bed gg: and by opening the three doors, 1, 2, 3. To have got entrance by the door E. would have been impossible; and to have attempted it, through the page's room, by opening first a door hh into the room EE: then passing by ff the page's door, which was always open: and page's bed gg where he lay at the moment; and then opening three doors into the Duke's chamber: would have been difficult and dangerous. It is tolerably clear from these facts that the assassin knew the apartments perfectly. And it is farther evident, from the following circumstance; though he was in terror and dismay, yet he fled out of the only door by which he could have escaped, notwithstanding there were three other doors in the room. His flight, however, led to his discovery; for his bloody hand upon the doors, pointed out the way he went, to the spot, where he set upon himself the mark of murderer.

It is obvious, however, that Sellis had no intention of destroying himself at first. For, it appeared, that on coming to his room O, he had washed his hands. The water in his bason was discoloured with blood, and even his nail-brush. It was clear, therefore, that, when he did this, he had no design of murdering himself: but, it was necessary, perhaps, according to whatever had been his premeditated ultimate purposes, to take the blood off his hands. This caused, however, a little delay: and, during this time, the alarm approached his chamber. The servants knocked at his door N, but received no answer. It may appear, on examining the plan, that when the servants receiving no answer returned down stairs, Sellis had an opportunity of escaping by opening his chamber door N, and passing the lobby M, along the gallery PP, and through the baize door QQ, of which he had the key. But the servants imagining Sellis was not in his bed-chamber agreed at his door, whereby they heard what was uttered, to take this very way of search for him in his family apartments. And, as this was the sole way by which he could have fled, they must have thus intercepted him in his passage out of the palace, if he had attempted to escape by means of the baize door and down the common stairs, into the arch-way between the courts of the palace: and if he had fled to his own apartments,

he would have been equally caught. Escape, therefore, was entirely cut off. But when they returned from his family apartments, and knocked at his door N. a second time in vain, and then determined to go around to the door U, which proposition he heard also, he became desperate. He was alarmed at the entry of the servants into his chamber; for they must have found him with all the marks of murderer about him: his coat being covered thick with spots of blood. Detection therefore being inevitable, and escape impossible, he opened the drawer of his bureau ii, which contained his dressing things; and taking out a razor, which had been formerly given to him by the Duke, he made a desperate effort to destroy himself; but failed. He cut however through the numerous folds of his cravat; but afterward taking off his cravat and probably his coat, both of which he threw aside, and placing himself on his bed, he then, with a violent exertion, almost severed his head from his body, and dropped the razor from his hand, close to the bed.

That this man had a different end in his atrocious views is without doubt. He endeavoured, however, to cast a mystery over them by various premeditated means. But they are obvious through the light of human testimony, the combination of circumstances, and the coincidence of facts. We need only open our eyes to let the proofs rush in

with conviction on the understanding. His hostility towards Neale was steady, uniform, and unabating. He was urged by hatred without bounds ; and his jealousy seems to have been a fury to torment him, so long as he viewed Neale's superior appointments. Driven on by such incentives, he produced charges against Neale, sufficient to ruin him, had they been substantiated. But, being fully examined, they fell to the ground. Thus, instead of destroying Neale, he began the work of his own destruction ; for, in place of an accuser, he exposed himself to the reprobation and shame of being accused for having brought charges without effect. This, no doubt, added rage to disappointment, and fresh fury to his jealousy, which could not tolerate that Neale should have all the perquisites of the Duke's wardrobe, and he none ; that Neale's wife should be housekeeper to the Duke, and his wife have no place ; that Neale and his wife should have apartments in the Palace, and his family none ; while he had reason to think that he was himself the favourite page. Having, also, been once discharged and then taken back, he was thus enabled to form some judgment of the estimate set upon his services by the Duke. Under all these circumstances he importuned his Royal Highness for the favour of apartments in the Palace, urging, that he was paying £ 30 per annum for a residence in Duke-street. His Royal

Highness indulgently gave him apartments in the Palace, with coals and candles. Sellis next requested a messenger's place, but he did not obtain it. He then asked for a housekeeper's place in the Palace for his wife, but he did not obtain it. He then asked for a sinecure, but he did not obtain it. His requests, in short, were so numerous and repeated, that his insatiability occasioned one of the Duke's gentlemen to tell him, that if his Royal Highness gave him Pall Mall he would ask for Piccadilly, and if he gave him Piccadilly he would not be satisfied without Bond Street. This affords some picture of the boundless nature of this man in all his pursuits, whether objects of reason or of the passions: he knew no limits to stop the completion of his purposes. An implacable hatred of Neale furnished an endless subject for abuse or crimination. Having failed in every effort to ruin or remove him, such disappointments seem to have inflamed his vengeance to a degree, that, to destroy Neale would have been a paramount indulgence above every sense of every other interest. For not only failure, in his diabolical plan for that purpose, was destruction; but success ruin, unless robbery was also in view. To murder the Duke, however, in a manner that Neale should atone with his blood for the crime, seems to have been this man's premeditated design. But the Duke was only se-

condary in this view. His Royal Highness was only the means for the accomplishment of vengeance and punishment on Neale. Sellis might have been supposed to be attached to the Duke, of whom he spoke with affection and solicitude; but of Neale never, except in terms of hostility and hatred. To be revenged on Neale, therefore, there was no sacrifice too great for such a monster. And, certainly, if he had escaped undiscovered to his apartments, after murdering the Duke, imputation must have attached to Neale, who was the page in waiting for the night, with his room contiguous to the Duke's bed-chamber, and the doors unlocked. Whereas, Sellis would have been supposed to have slept in a remote chamber, and with the Duke's door locked against him. But, if Sellis had also intentions of robbery, as some at present conceive, and his past conduct warrants the opinion, then his passions and his interests went hand in hand. For, if he had succeeded in carrying off the Duke's box, or rather its valuable contents, of which both he and Neale had keys, he would have enriched himself, and have been free from all engagements, to go and enjoy his plunder in another country, which he could not have done in safety here.

Sellis had come from Lord Mount Edgecumbe's service into that of the Duke; but, previous to his engagement with Lord Mount Edgecumbe, he

had served Mr. Church, in America. While he was there his master was robbed of a gold watch, a diamond pin, and a sum of money, which were taken out of his desk. And, in order to impress Mr. Church with an opinion, that the robbery was not committed by any person in the house, the plate was collected and tied up, as if the robbers had intended to carry it off, but were alarmed and left part of their booty behind. No person, however, appeared more active than Sellis, on this occasion, to find out the robbers.

But, Mr. Church, being in the habit of sleeping in his chair, was awaked by some person stealing softly into his room while he was asleep. The man was approaching; Mr. Church started up, and found it was Sellis. Examining carefully into this matter, he discovered that Sellis had concealed himself until he supposed his master was asleep, and then proceeded to steal into the room. Mr. Church, consequently turning those circumstances further in his mind, his suspicions fell on Sellis, with respect to the robbery. He proceeded, therefore, to search his trunks, and a hammer was found in Sellis's possession, the claws of which fitted exactly into the indentures made in the desk by the exertions used to force it open. Sellis was, notwithstanding, extremely cool when accused of this crime. He was taken, however, before the magistrates of New York, and ex-

mined ; but the proofs were not thought sufficient to warrant public punishment, though no one doubted his guilt. After this he quitted America and returned here.

There is a degree of coincidence in the circumstances which occurred in Mr. Church's house and in the Duke's apartments. The ingenuity of Ellis's pretences to baffle suspicion, by aiming at one thing in appearance and doing another in reality, is remarkable in both places. He pretended he was to go to Windsor, that he might have a reason for sleeping at the Duke's. And Margaret Jones, who had not been in the habit of making his bed, was asked by him to make it that night, before other persons ; with a view, no doubt, that they might all bear witness to the fact, if necessary. He afterwards pretended to undress, and stripped off his coat before Margaret Jones, to go to bed ; whereas his object was totally different. So while at Mr. Church's, being dismissed by his master for the night, he pretended to go to bed. But he had other intentions. He went and concealed himself until he thought all had retired to rest : then stole into the apartment, where his master was asleep, for the execution of his premeditated design. But he was foiled : his master awoke, and saw the villain. His schemes, however, were deeply laid ; and his precautions in this instance, bear resemblance to the premeditated circumstances in his last effort.

Mr. Church's residence consisted of a double house, containing two rooms on a floor, with a passage or lobby between them. Sellis took the precaution to lock the two doors which were the principal entrance, and through which, in case of alarm or suspicion, his pursuers most probably would have come. Though he had thus guarded against pursuit, he did not confide, however, to this single security, but provided for escape by other means. He left open a third room, by the other stair-case, which communicated with a drawing-room that had a balcony, from this he had easy access into a yard, which being inclosed only by a low wall, he could have got over it without the least difficulty, and would have then been in the open street. In his escape by this track he could not have been intercepted but by way of the kitchen; and before a pursuer could have followed him that way, he must have opened a door that was always barred, bolted, locked, and chained; and which must have therefore occupied so much time as to give sufficient opportunity for escape. He pretended, however, that his anxiety was extreme to find out the robbers at Mr. Church's; and, that the plate was tied up in a cloth in order to be carried away by them. Whereas, there was no doubt but he was himself the robber, and that the plate was tied up by him to baffle suspicion. In each of the two places, instead of retiring to bed, he

stole to a lurking hole, where he concealed himself until the dead of night, and then crept forth for his diabolical designs. But, the tread of his foot in America having not only rendered his dark designs abortive there, but led nearly to detection; the recollection of this fact caused him, most probably, to shun such consequences, by approaching the Duke without slippers.

Sellis, when in America, boasted he was the person who threw the stone at the King. The man, however, who flung the stone at His Majesty as he came from the House of Commons was taken up. But, there was a stone flung also at the King as he came from the Play-house, which fell into Lady Harrington's lap. This may have been the proud boast of such a monster, who indulged himself in America, not only in unavailing curses against the King, and the race of Kings; but in most horrid blasphemy and execrations against his Maker.

The heart sickens while contemplating such senseless depravity in a human being! But, Providence, in his justice, has withdrawn this creature from the earth, whose bad designs, though long premeditated, and deliberately executed, in order to insure success, all became the means of his failure and self-destruction. It was thought extraordinary by many, that this man had not used a knife, or stiletto, or some short weapon, such as

are the general instruments of murder in his native land and the neighbouring countries. But, an over-ruling Providence seems most visibly to have interposed. Probably, this creature calculating on his own safety, and dreading if he missed his first blow, to come within the grasp of the Duke's arm, the superior strength of which he feared, preferred the sabre to any short weapon, in order to be out of his Royal Highness's reach. Yet, the length of the instrument, in which this murderer confided, tended to defeat his diabolical designs. For, when he levelled his first blow, which he intended to be final to his royal master's existence, the length of the sabre caused it to strike against the net-work fringe which hangs in festoons from the cornice of the bed. The blow cut away the tassels, but this impeded the stroke, diminished its force, and changed its direction. For, instead of striking the Duke's head perpendicularly, as the blow was aimed, and which, if it had taken place, would have cleft his head in two, it fell obliquely. But, though the Duke's head reposed on a soft pillow which yielded to the pressure of the blow, and, though the blow fell obliquely and was diminished in force, still it cut through not only a fillet wadded with cotton, but a handkerchief-bandeau, and produced an exfoliation of three pieces from the skull. Had not those imped-

nents intervened, his first blow might have been the last, as it would certainly have proved fatal. It has been stated that Sellis, probably, recollecting that the noise of his step had baffled his midnight attempt in America by awaking his master, took off his slippers and left them behind in the place of his concealment, in order to approach, his murderous work, unheard. But, his caution turned to his detection: for he forgot that his name was written inside of them, and, that, the very hand, which he raised against his master's life, thus bore testimony against him as the assassin.

It has been also stated, that Sellis had even the precaution to strip himself before a witness, under the pretence of going to bed; with a view, no doubt, of proving his innocence afterwards. But, by the testimony of this witness, substantiating this fact, and the time in which it took place, namely, at about a quarter past ten, it appeared that he dressed himself again, and went afterwards to the Duke's room, where he was seen and left by Strickland at about eleven o'clock. And, probably, on Strickland's leaving the room, or shortly after, Sellis went and concealed himself in his lurking hole. It appears also, that, when he stripped himself, under pretence of going to bed, his real object was to change his ordinary

clothes. And the motive for this seems tolerably evident; lest they should be stained with blood. He, therefore, put on some of his cast off clothes for his murderous work; intending, no doubt, to resume his former dress, after the horrid deed was executed. But this deep precaution turned also to his destruction. For, so keenly and instantaneously was he sought, by the servants, to come to the Duke's assistance, that he had neither time to resume his ordinary dress, nor even to get rid of the dress which he had put on for the purpose of murder. He had on the light coloured pantaloons when he destroyed himself; and the blue coat was flung, by him, across the back of his chair, covered with the blood of his master which cried out against him for vengeance and for retribution.

Even the attachment of the Duke to this man led to his discovery and destruction. For, while faint and bleeding from numerous wounds inflicted by him, his Royal Highness desired him to be called to his assistance, in whose services he had chief confidence. But this confidence became instrumental to his detection. For this monster of ingratitude being thus caught in his own snares, by the servants who went to call him, he inflicted an awful punishment on himself, cutting himself off in the midst of his crimes.

After this horrid event it was thought proper to examine this man's papers, and, also, to ascertain if he had the key of the baize door; because, if he had, it was evident no other persons had used that key for the purpose of escape. The examination of his papers, and the search for the key, was made by the Coroner; at which his Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex and the Rev. Dr. Clarke, who is domestic chaplain to the Duke of Cumberland, were present. Neale being also present, when the accusatory letter against him was found and partly read, he expressed his uneasiness at such a letter going forth among persons to whom he was unknown.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex informed Neale, that it was necessary to read all letters found in Sellis's possession; and, it was particularly requisite, the coroner and jury should have full knowledge of such a letter as this, which tended to shew the nature and disposition of the man. It was also remarked to him, by Dr. Clarke, that the strongest refutation of the charges contained in this letter was their own inefficiency, since Neale had remained undisturbed in his Royal Highness's service, as if no such letter had been ever written. Neale said he was sensible of the force of those reasons; but he could not help feeling the injustice of such imputations, conscious as he was of his own innocence. After a

long, and useless, search for the key of the baize-door, Neale was desired, by his Royal Highness, Duke of Sussex, to search Sellis's pockets. Neale approached the dead-body of Sellis, who exhibited a most frightful spectacle, as he lay stretched on the broad of his back, on the bed, covered with a sheet of coagulated blood from his neck to his knees, his throat gaping wide and horrible, and his face pale and livid. Taking the dead body of his enemy by the hand, he raised its arm; he held Sellis's hand in his: and, looking stedfastly on the bloody corpse: he said, emphatically, "God forgive you: you dug a pit for others and have fallen into it yourself." Never was a truth more awfully exemplified. Murder, and vengeance on others, were his object, yet he, alone, became a dreadful victim of both, and himself the executioner. Neale felt Sellis's breeches pockets, externally, for the key; but so hard was the stratum of coagulated blood, that he could not perceive it. The key, however, was in his pocket, and was afterward taken out, which proved that the persons had obtained this key, for the purpose of escape through the baize-door.

This horrid event appears to have been the act of this man, both in plan and in execution; but whether his object, according to the opinion of some, was solely murder, or, according to others, robbery and murder, is a circumstance,

no importance. In both cases, as Neale was close waiting, and slept in an apartment contiguous to the Duke's, and with the doors unlocked between them; if Sellis, after committing his act, had retired to his bed, which was remote in the palace from the Duke's chamber, and with doors shut and locked between the Duke and him: it is not difficult to decide that the crime would be more imputable to Neale than Sellis. Sellis's conduct, however, was so subtle and artful, as to throw much mystery over his machinations. During the hour previous to the execution of those deeds of darkness, this man's apparent coolness and tranquillity, while his heart was actually glowing with the thoughts of murder, was wonderful. He idolized his children and his wife; his time and his affections were devoted to them: no man could have been fonder of the one, or loved the other more, without interruption of affection. Even the night of this awful catastrophe, he remarked to his wife that she had eaten but an indifferent dinner, and should have something nice for supper. Having bought some veal, and, being an admirable cook, he dressed a cutlet, and sat down and ate it, in apparent happiness, with his wife and family. In all the ease of domestic comfort and conversation, having before remarked the kindness

of the Royal Family to her and her children, (whose condescension was most gracious, and their beneficence large); he desired her to buy some new articles of dress for herself and children, before the birth-day, as they should all stand in the passage of the palace, where the Queen and Princesses pass; and he gave her money for the purpose. After supper he got up, and, seemingly, in perfect tranquillity and happiness, kissed his wife, as was his usual custom when going to sleep at the Duke's, and wished her good night. What expressions can describe the unparalleled hypocrisy of such a being, whose heart, at that moment, meditated such bloody events. But the principles that lurked in his nature, and which were previously known to the domestics of Mr. Church, and now stand testified by their late depositions, did not escape entire observation. On the morning of this monstrous deed, one of the gentlemen of the Duke's household had occasion to wait upon a personage of great rank, at an early hour. He was asked if he had heard of the dreadful event, which was rumoured to have taken place. He said that he had not, having come directly from his own house, but begged to know what it was? Being informed that an attempt was said to have been made to assassinate the Duke of Cumberland by one of his servants: With

an exclamation of horror, he replied, "if such an attempt has been made by any of the servants, Sellis is the man!"

The revolutionary principles of this man, with respect to government and religion, are fully substantiated by Mr. Church's servants. It appears that Sellis was intimate and closely connected with a Frenchman, who was a cook in the service of one of the Royal Family. This man was a notorious Jacobin, and would have been transported out of this kingdom, but he engaged himself in the service of Mr. Church, and went to America, at the same time that Sellis accompanied Mr. Church. This Frenchman and Sellis coalesced in all the principles of hatred of Royalty, hatred of established order, hatred of religion, hatred of every thing that was moral. But Sellis had a peculiarity of temper, which has been mentioned by his fellow-servant, who lived mostly with him, as they both accompanied their master in his various journies through America. He was quick and violent in his feelings, yet cold, concealed, and treacherous in his habits. His fellow-servant's remark is, "that though he was fiery, he was extremely sly, and would do things in a manner, and at a time, that they would never be thought of." Sellis seems to have resembled the volcanic productions of those cli-

mates whence he came; whose heart is firm and head is snow.

It is said by some persons, that he was a native of Sardinia : it was said by himself that he was native of Corsica. The circumstance is of no importance, however, but to his country, which thus escapes the disgraceful certainty of being parent to such a monster. He was one of the class, which is restless for change, in hopes, like others of the revolutionary gang, to start from obscurity into splendour, and to obtain distinction without merit. The first efforts of this tribe are always to hide their want of consequence, in the vain glory of belonging to the new sect ; which rendered immortal by infamy : whose leaders being converts of Rousseau, and disciples of Helvetius and Voltaire, subtilized themselves into savages. But, thank God ! The morals of England, though blighted at one moment, some few of its branches, by a pestilential breeze from France, are still sound in the root. We prefer rational liberty, and rational religion to the codes of madmen, and the systems of atheists : We fear God, love our King, uphold the constitution, maintain the laws, reverence the clergy, respect the nobility, and are just to all men. This is the creed of Old England, in the native plainness and honesty of its policy, in the native simplicity and directness of its understanding.

But nature shrinks at the scene of perfidy, malice, and murder which now stands disclosed before us ! How immense this lust of blood and revenge ! When we contemplate this monster, calculating, weighing, dividing in the scale of horrors, so much crime, to procure so much vengeance—When we view him spilling and wading through the blood of one to secure, and glut himself with the blood of another—What an expenditure of treachery and horrible inhumanity ! A spectacle like this affects the mind with melancholy sentiments, upon the unstable condition of things, and the tremendous uncertainty of human blessings. Such events furnish an awful lesson ; sufficient to alarm the most unthinking into reflection.

It is a subject of melancholy and frightful meditation to contemplate human nature, coming near to the cold malignity of a wicked spirit. When man will not hear the loud knockings of conscience at his breast, nor see any way to his imagined good but by that of evil : when the compunctious visitings of nature are without power to appal his heart : when its high protest is vain against murderous speculations, at which “ the face of heaven glows with horror and indignation ;” awful and gloomy is this picture of man. Happily, however, such black and dismal effects are not without relief, from the consoling light of

human virtues. Respect for human nature, and the homage which we owe to moral and natural obligation, call upon us, therefore, to do justice on such an occasion to the high and amiable qualities of humanity, in the exemplary conduct of the Royal Brothers.

The language of nature is intelligible to all: but never did it speak more forcibly to the heads and hearts of men than in the ardour of fraternal solicitude, and the united affections of all those Royal Personages, on this melancholy occasion. The Prince repaired at an early hour to St. James's, as soon as he heard of this horrid event; and when he beheld the deplorable condition of his brother, the feelings of his nature did honour to his heart. He instantly invested himself with the whole charge of every concern relative to his brother, and the communication of the dreadful tidings to his Majesty. He had the Duke conveyed in the evening to Carlton-House, where he became himself his attendant, and a most affectionate, vigilant, and tender attendant; who, lest he should disturb his brother by the least noise or movement, generally approached him without shoes or slippers; and constantly assisted at the painful operations of dressing his wounds, whose exquisite sufferings frequently affected the Prince to tears.

These feelings are truly amiable, It is upon

such a stock of tenderness nature ever grafts the milder virtues ; and with that elevated sentiment, the inbred grace of life, they become the guardian of its affections and the monitor of its duty. For while the heart owns, the understanding ratifies, their influence. From such sensibility of principle ever flows that best balm to the afflicted, the consolation and the sympathy of friendship. The Duke has experienced this in the tender solicitude, fraternal feelings, and most vivid glow of affection in the Prince. He must be in the Duke's heart to the very last beat.

I am,

Dear Sir,

&c. &c. &c.

THE END.





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